

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to methods and apparatuses for processing podded vegetables including green Cicer beans. Green Cicer beans are commonly referred to as chickpeas and come in two varieties, Desi-type and Kabuli-type. The Kabuli-type of chickpeas are commonly referred to as garbanzo beans. Until the present invention, there was no commercial method or apparatus for post-harvest processing of green Cicer beans. The present invention can relate not only to post-harvest processing of green Cicer beans but any podded produce where there is a need to separate unwanted material from the green produce. Apparatuses and methods of the present invention permit secondary processing of podded vegetables to increase overall grower yield. Additionally, methods according to the present invention, disclose desired dwell times and blanching temperatures for the deactivation of enzymes that can damage green produce or render it unsaleable.